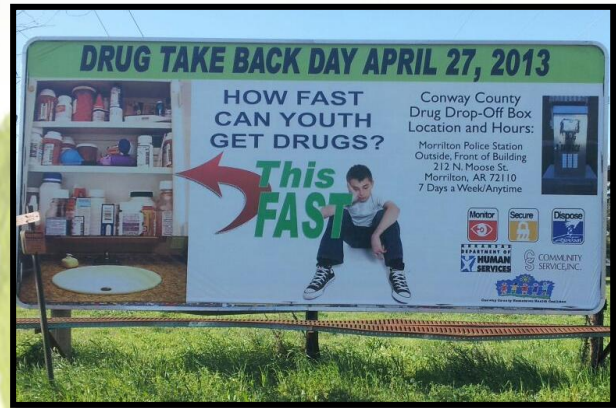


Northwest Region Hometown Health Newsletter



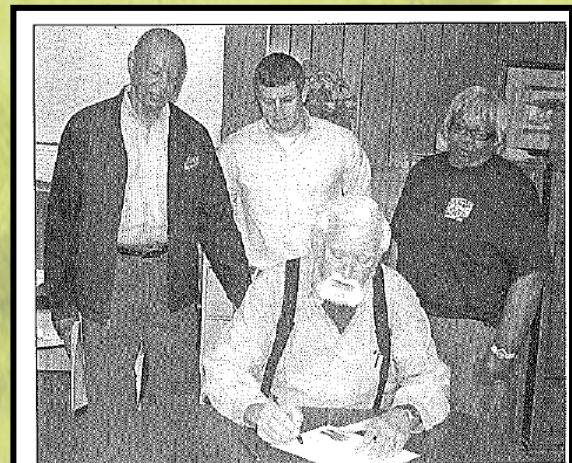
Conway County

Conway County Hometown Health's new Prescription Drugs Awareness billboard is officially up! (Left) Check it out! It features a picture and the location of their new Drug Drop-Off box. There are two locations: at the Intersection of Hwy. 64 W. and W. Childress (close to the Morrilton Country Club), facing west, on the right side of the road as you're coming into town.



Conway County Hometown Health/Alcohol Tobacco and Other Drug Prevention Coalition observe as Mayor Stewart Nelson signs a proclamation for Law Enforcement Appreciation Day. (Pictured Right; article from the Petit Jean Country Headlight)

Conway County Hometown Health Coalition honors law enforcement officers with an appreciation luncheon. (Pictured below; article from the Petit Jean Country Headlight)



—Staff Photo by Sharon Jenkins
MAYOR STEWART NELSON signs a proclamation as Raymond Chambers, from left, Nick Butler, both of the Conway County Hometown Health/ATOD committee, and Florene Davis of the Senior Adult Center look on.

Mayor proclaims May 3 as Law Enforcement Appreciation Day



MIGHTY PUPS ENTERTAINING

—PHOTO BY STEWART NELSON

Luncheon honors law enforcement

By ERIC TYLER
Reporter

Law enforcement officers in Conway County were honored Friday at an appreciation luncheon sponsored by the Conway County Hometown Health, Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs Coalition.

The group held the event for the fourth consecutive year as a way to show appreciation for all

the work the law enforcement officers put in to keeping everyone safe in Conway County.

This year's event was hosted by the T.C. Vaughan Senior Adult Center in Morrilton.

Guest speaker for the program was Josh McMillian,

director of public safety for Arkansas Tech University. McMillian said events that honor law enforcement officers are important because they help build relationships between the officers and the communities they serve.

Newton County



Newton County Health Unit Administrator Regina Tkachuk and featured speaker David Parnell visited during the Newton County Teen Summit held Wednesday, April 24, at the Carroll Electric Building in Jasper. There were 106 eighth grade students present at Jasper, Oark, Deer, Mt. Judea and Western Grove Schools. Parnell and other guest speakers discussed the dangers of substance abuse, texting and driving, and other dangers facing modern teens. (David Parnell is a public speaker, author, consultant, and advocate for drug endangered children. Parnell has literally spoken to tens of thousands of people in over thirty states and in three countries during the past five years about the dangers of methamphetamine.

<http://www.facingthedragon.org/index.htm>)



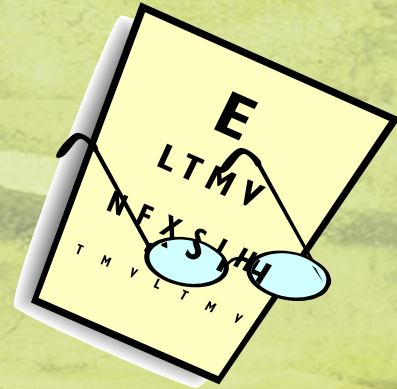
HIKE! Newton County

HIKE is a new Partnership of the National Park Service Buffalo National River, the Ozark National Forest, Jasper District Schools, North Arkansas Partnership for Health Education (NAPHE), Healthy Kids Healthy Ozarks, Newton County Hometown Health Improvement Coalition, and other groups. This partnership was developed as a collaborative to provide local youth with better opportunities to live healthy lifestyles and to promote well-being as an interrelated system linking human health and the natural environment. (Pictured left: Students at different stations during the May 3rd hike.)



Lavaca Schools Provide Eye Care

Lavaca was among one of the first school districts in the state to open a school-based health center. The center has been offering medical, dental, and mental-health services since January 2011 and now offers eye care as well. The center provides health services for students, teachers, and the Lavaca community.



Marion County Hometown Health receives 2013 Wear It! grant. A Grassroots Support to promote Life Jacket Wear Boating Safety

Yellville, Ark (May, 2013) – Grassroots outreach is a very important component to raise awareness of important safety messages in local communities. That's why the National Safe Boating Council, a lead partner of the North American Safe Boating Campaign, is proud to award grassroots support to 14 organizations throughout the U.S. The campaign wants to promote the importance of consistent life jacket wear while on the water in their local communities.

"We feel fortunate to be awarded support out of the nearly 60 applications being submitted from 22 states," said a local representative from Marion County Hometown Health.

Marion County Hometown Health has received over \$3000.00 in supplies to join area partners in conducting at least 4 educational events to promote the "Wear It" Campaign this summer. "Their hard work throughout the 2013 boating season will help bring the 'Wear It!' message to boaters in their communities, and most importantly, save lives by reminding people to always wear their life jacket while on the water" said Rachel Johnson, communications director for the National Safe Boating Council and national coordinator for the campaign. Safe boating saves lives –throughout the boating season remember to "Wear It!"

The Yellville Summit School District received a School Based Health Center grant to provide basic physical, mental, dental or other services as needed for Marion County. The center will start in the fall of 2013 with the intent to act as a resource center for wellness and prevention.



2nd Annual Franklin County Couch to 5k

For the past 3 months, the participants of the Couch to 5k program have been working to reach their goal of completing a 5k race and leading healthier lives. Thirty-eight Franklin County community members reached that goal as they ran in the Couch to 5k event on June 8th. (Pictured right)

The third runner up was the team of

Be Strong Carry On

Second runner up was the team of

Miss Fits

First Runner up was the team of

Sister Sister

Winning team was

A+ Divas

Franklin County's Right C.H.O.I.C.E.S Coalition hosted a 2nd Annual Color Run 5K on May 11th in Charleston. They had a very large turnout from the community to raise drug and alcohol awareness.



Scott County Health Unit participated in the Waldron Middle School Health Expo on May 10th & 11th. Approximately 510 students, grades five through eight, participated in hands on educational and physical activity games.



Searcy County held its 3rd Annual Health & Safety Expo on May 4th. Over 300 community members attended and had the opportunity to visit over thirty vendor booths and receive free health screenings. This year a prevention theatre room was provided for parents & youth to watch powerful films on drug/tobacco use and texting while driving.

Newton County

On May 18th the groundbreaking for the Veteran's Walk of honor was held. Several members of the American Legion, the Mayor, a City Council Member and a representative from Congressman Tom Cotton's office were present to celebrate the memorial.

Madison County

The "Most of Us" billboard was sponsored and displayed in Madison County by the Madison County Hometown Health Coalition. The Billboard features local students from all three Madison County Schools presenting an underage drinking prevention message that "most" Madison County Teens do not engage in underage drinking to decrease the affects of peer pressure.



Health Insurance Marketplace to provide access to affordable coverage
Program features financial assistance

When key parts of the Affordable Care Act take effect January 1, 2014, Arkansans will have a new way to buy health insurance: the Health Insurance Marketplace.

The Arkansas Insurance Department is partnering with the federal government to establish this insurance marketplace where individuals, families and small businesses can compare qualified health insurance plans in Arkansas and choose the plan that best meets their needs. Consumers and small businesses will be able to shop for, compare and enroll in high-quality, affordable private health insurance at competitive prices beginning October 1, 2013.

Plans available through the Health Insurance Marketplace will be approved and monitored by the Arkansas Insurance Department to ensure that they offer the 10 Essential Health Benefits mandated by the new law and pay the required amount of claims costs. Individuals enrolling in health plans through the new Marketplace may also be eligible for financial assistance to help pay their premiums.

<http://www.arhealthconnector.org/>



Arkansas Department of Health



RESOURCES FOR COALITIONS

~Check out Xerox free color printer program for Nonprofits!

<https://www.freecolorprinters.xerox.com/vhub/volunteerhub.jsp>

~Grant Opportunities

<http://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/aboutADH/Pages/GrantBidOpportunities.aspx#fundingopps>

<http://www.arkansasobesity.org/resources/>

<http://www.samhsa.gov/grants/>

~Volunteer Recognition

<http://humanservices.arkansas.gov/dcsns/Pages/VolunteerRecognition.aspx>

~Statewide Injury Prevention Program

<http://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/programsServices/injuryPreventionControl/injuryPrevention/SIPP/Pages/default.aspx>

~Top 10 Public Health Achievements

<http://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/aboutADH/Pages/Top10.aspx>

~County Health Facts

<http://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/programsServices/communications/Pages/Publications.aspx>

Helping communities plan for a Healthy tomorrow!